



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE DEPORTS JAMAICAN DRUG TRAFFICKER

MIAMI – A 62-year-old felon who served a three-year prison sentence for strong-armed robbery and narcotics trafficking was deported Monday to his home country of Jamaica by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers.

Joseph Solomon Bedward entered the United States as a temporary worker in 1974 and failed to depart when his visa expired. He was subsequently placed in removal proceedings for being in the country illegally. An immigration judge found him ineligible for any form of relief and ordered him removed in 2001. Bedward's appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals was denied in 2002.

"ICE is committed to restoring integrity to our nation's immigration system by removing those who pose a threat to our community and who have no legal right to remain in the country," said Michael Rozos, Florida's field officer director for detention and removal. "Our citizens can breathe a sigh of relief today knowing that there is one less criminal terrorizing our community."

The DRO nationwide initiative focuses on promoting public safety and national security by ensuring that all aliens who are subject to deportation are removed from the United States as expeditiously as possible. Last year, ICE removed a record setting 160,000 aliens; approximately 53 percent were criminal aliens.

ICE's Florida field office has removed 1,617 aliens since the beginning of fiscal year 05, 862 were criminal aliens.

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U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities